to completely indigenise the total manufacture of coins in this Mint?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) India Government Mint, NOIDA went into production on 1st July, 1988.

(b) The production details year-wise of NOIDA Mint since it went into production are as under:

Year	Production of Coins (in million pieces)
1988-89	450
1989-90	743

(c) This Mint is using imported stainless steel coin blanks for minting the coins.

(d) NOIDA Mint does not have any blanking facility of its own. It has only stamping facility. Efforts are in progress on the following lines to make available coin blanks indigenously:

(a) Provisions of blanking facility as part of Modernisation Programme under implementation at Bombay, Calcutta and Hyderabad Mints, expected to be completed by December, 1992;

(b) Supply of stainless steel strips by Steel Authority of India (SAIL) in due course to these Mints for making blanks; and

(c) Ordering, in the meantime, of coin blanks from SAIL for supply with effect from February, 1991.

Setting up of Trade Fair centres in different parts of the country

1625. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Trade Fair Authority of India plans to set up more centres on the lines of the Pragati Maidan in Delhi;

(b) if so, what are the names of the places where the centres are proposed to be set up; and

(c) in what way the infrastructure at the Pragati Maidan in Delhi is going to be utilised to the optimum capacity round the year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI ARANGIL SREE DHARAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Trade Fair Authority of India aims at organising trade fairs not only in Delhi but also in other important cities and State capitals. Though there are certain proposals to develop exhibition infrastructure in the metropolitan cities in the country like Bombay, no definite project has emerged.

(c) TFAI has plans to increase the number of fairs in reference to specific product groups with export thrust, to be organised under its own aegis. It is also making efforts in encouraging outside agencies to hire out exhibition space in Pragati Maidan for organising their exhibitions.

Direction received by custom authorities from Ministry of Commerce

1626. SHRI BEKAL UTSAHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state.

(a) whether it is a fact that custom authorities had received a direction from the Ministry of Commerce requesting them not to clear certain Non-OGL Capital goods on REP and additional licences in terms of paras 177 and 215 of the 1988-91 Import and Export Policy;

(b) if so, whether there has been any deviation from these directions and if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) what are the broad details of imports permitted in contradiction to

the above directions of the Commerce Ministry and the names of the beneficiaries?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) Yes, Sir. Customs authorities had received REP Circular No. 24 / 89 dated 21.6.89 from the Chief Controller of Imports and Exports in the Ministry of Commerce.

(b) and (c) There has been no deviation from these directions. Wherever goods were sought to be cleared in contravention of these directions, the cases were adjudicated for violation of Import Trade Control prohibitions. Only at two Custom Houses, conditional release was permitted.

In *Cochin* there was an import cosignment of 50 units of fax machines in February, 1990. Since it was felt that these were office machines, not permissible as per para 177, the matter was referred to the Chief Controller of Imports and Exports. Pending decision in the matter, the goods were released against an ITC bond supported by bank guarantee. The case is not under adjudication, for ITC infringement.

In *Madras,* five consignments of fax machines were sought to be cleared in terms of paras 177 and 215 of the Policy. Four of them were released, pending adjudication in compliance with the interim orders of Madras High Court, against bank guarantee, cash deposit and personal bond. All these cases have since been adjudicated for unauthorised imports. Goods were confiscated and redemption fine and personal penalty imposed.

Import of Non-OGL goods

1627. SHRIMATI RATAN KUMARI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have recently allowed import of Non-OGL capital goods namely computers and computer related products and photo-composing machines; and

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that the prior clearance for such imports were taken from the Department of Electronics as required under para 41(2) of the new Import and Export Policy and if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI ARANGIL SREEDHARAN): (a) and (b) Import of Non-OGL computers and computer related products and photo-composing machines are allowed to Actual Users on the basis of recommendation of sponsoring authorities and clearance by the concerned committee in which a representation of Department of Electronics is a member.

Examination of proposal for revision of pay scale for certain posts in Department of Posts

1628. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry is examining a proposal for the revision of pay scales of Inspectors and Assistant Superintendents in the Department of Posts as per recommendations of the Fourth Central Pay Commission; and

(b) if so, by when the decision is likely to be taken?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A proposal for the merger of Inspectors of the Post Offices and Inspectors of Indian Railway Mail Services in a common cadre and their revision of pay scales is under examination and a decision is expected to be taken soon.

1629. [*Transferred to the 25th May, 1990*]

1630. [*Transferred to the 25th May, 1990*]

Improper functioning of ICPS

1631. SHRI A. NALLASIVAN: Will